

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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ACDA-10 IO-10 /086 W

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P 090408Z NOV 75

FM AMCCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1915

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

RUMMJNA CONUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB

5TH AIR FORCE YOKOTA

OAC CAMP BUTLER

USAGO MACHINATO

313TH AD KADENA

376TH STRATEGIC WING KADENA

MARCORB CAMP FOSTER

COMFLEACTS OKINAWA

OAFD CAMP BUTLER

CINCPAC

2ND AIR DIVISION GUAM

UNCLAS NAHA 564

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT MRN TO READ 564 VICE 562)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: NA

HPAGE 2 RHAIBQA4949 UNCLAS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: OKINAWAN REACTION TO ARRIVAL OF B-52'S

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SUMMARY: UNDER HEADLINE OF "ARRIVAL OF BLACK KILLERS"

OKINAWAN PRESS AND POLITICAL PARTIES ARE MAKING HEAVY ISSUE OF VISIT TO KADENA OF FIFTEEN B-52'S ON TYPHOON REFUGE FROM GUAM. THE MAIN CHARGE BESIDES THAT OF MAKING THE PEOPLE UNEASY, IS THAT THIS IS PART OF WAR PREPARATIONS FOR KOREA. END SUMMARY

1. THE ARRIVAL NOVEMBER 8 AT KADENA USAF BASE OF 15 B-52'S FROM GUAM ON TYPHOON REFUGE HAS PREDICTABLY STIRRED QUICK AND HOSTILE REACTION FROM THE OKINAWA PRESS AND POLITICAL PARTIES. THE BASIC THEME IS THAT THE TYPHOON IS ONLY AN EXCUSE TO GIVE NEW PILOTS A CHANCE TO PRACTICE OPERATIONAL ALERTS S FROM OKINAWA AS PART OF WIDER AMERICAN PREPARATION FOR WAR IN KOREA. THE CLAIM IS FURTHER THAT THIS IS PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF AN AMERICAN-ROK-JAPAN MILITARY ALLIANCE.
2. THE GOVERNOR COMPLAINED TO THE PRESS AND BY TELEGRAM TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE LACK OF PRIOR NOTICE TO HIM AND THE PREFECTURE (HE WAS INFORMED BY THE KADENA VILLAGE FIRE

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DEPARTMENT AND MAYOR), STATING THE B-52'S CAUSE GREAT UNEASINESS TO THE PEOPLE AND ASKING THEY BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY. ALL THE POLITICAL PARTIES, INCLUDING THE LOCAL CONSERVATIVES, ALSO PROMPTLY PROTESTED. SOCIALIST DIETMEMBER UEHARA AND COMMUNIST DIETMEMBER SENAGA PROMISE TO RAISE THE ISSUE IN THE DIET IN THE CINTEXT OF JAPANESE INVOLVEMENT IN COMMBAT SUPPORT FOR KOREA. THE ANTI-H BOMB LEFTIST GROUPS AND KADENA VILLAGE PLAN RALIES AGAINST THE B-52'S. SO FAR, HOWEVER THE ONLY ACTIVITY HAS BEEN A SMALL GROUP APPARENTLY OF STUDENTS PROTESTING ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 8 AT ONE OF USAF KADENA GATES.

3. THE FULL FIRST PAGE PRESS COVERAGE ALSO INCLUDED THE USUAL EDITORIAL DENUNCIATIONS, THE OKINAWA TIMES CITED AS REASONS FOR OKINAWAN HOSTILITY TO THE COMING OF THE B-52'S THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE B-52'S CRASH AND EXPLOSION ON THE KADENA RUNWAY SEVEN YEARS BEFORE, THE BAD MEMORY OF B-52 SORTIES TO BOMB IN VIETNAM, THE FEAR THAT THIS B-52 ENTRY WILL MEAN FREE FUTURE USE OF OKINAWAN BASES IN EVENT OF WAR IN KOREA, AND SO ON. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED RINGINGLY:
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"AS LONG AS KADENA BASE EXIST ON OKINAWA, B-52'S WILL FLY

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HERE".

4. THE PRESS NOTED IN PASSING THE USAF PRESS STATEMENT THAT B-52'S WERE HERE ONLY FOR TYPHOON REFUGE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY

SECURITY SECTION CHIEF YAMASHITA'S STATEMENT TO THE SAME EFFECT, IN WHICH HE EMPHASIZED THERE WAS NO DIRECT MILITARY PURPOSE.

5. IT HAS BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE THE B-52'S LAST VISITED OKINAWA, THE LAST TIME BEING SOME 104 PLANES OCT 26-29, 1972. BETWEEN REVERSION ON MAY 15 AND THE OCTOBER FLIGHT THERE HAS BEEN THREE OTHER SMALL VISITS OF B-52'S INTO KADENA.

6. COMMENT: THE PRESENT HEAVY POLITICAL FUSS OVER THE B-52'S WILL BE DEFLATED IN PART BY THE EARLY RETURN OF THE PLANES TO GUAM.

SYLVESTER

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